

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2409

AN ACT

To allow servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite television, and Internet access service contracts while deployed.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. TERMINATION OF MULTICHANNEL VIDEO PRO-**
2 **GRAMMING AND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE**
3 **CONTRACTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 305A of the
5 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3956) is
6 amended—

7 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “, **MUL-**
8 **TICHANNEL VIDEO PROGRAMMING, AND**
9 **INTERNET ACCESS**” after “**TELEPHONE**”;

10 (2) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
11 following new paragraph:

12 “(4) **ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUALS COVERED.**—For
13 purposes of this section, the following individuals
14 shall be treated as a servicemember covered by para-
15 graph (1):

16 “(A) A spouse of a servicemember who
17 dies while in military service or a spouse of a
18 member of the reserve components who dies
19 while performing duty described in subpara-
20 graph (B).

21 “(B) A member of the reserve components
22 performing military service or performing full-
23 time National Guard duty, active Guard and
24 Reserve duty, or inactive-duty training (as such
25 terms are defined in section 101(d) of title 10,
26 United States Code).”;

1 (3) in subsection (b), by striking “cellular tele-
2 phone service or telephone exchange service” and in-
3 serting “commercial mobile service, telephone ex-
4 change service, Internet access service, or multi-
5 channel video programming service”;

6 (4) in subsection (c), by inserting “for commer-
7 cial mobile service or telephone exchange service” be-
8 fore “terminated”;

9 (5) in subsection (d), in the matter preceding
10 paragraph (1), by striking “cellular telephone serv-
11 ice” and inserting “commercial mobile service”;

12 (6) in subsection (e)—

13 (A) by striking “For any” and inserting
14 the following:

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For any”;

16 (B) by striking “If the” and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(2) REINSTATEMENT OF SERVICE.—If the”;

19 and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(3) RETURN OF PROVIDER-OWNED EQUIP-
22 MENT.—If a servicemember terminates a contract
23 under subsection (a), the servicemember shall return
24 any provider-owned consumer premises equipment to

1 the service provider not later than 10 days after the
2 date on which service is disconnected.”; and

3 (7) in subsection (g)—

4 (A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
5 paragraph (4); and

6 (B) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
7 ing the following:

8 “(1) The term ‘commercial mobile service’ has
9 the meaning given that term in section 332(d) of the
10 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

11 “(2) The term ‘multichannel video program-
12 ming service’ means a subscription video service of-
13 fered by a multichannel video programming dis-
14 tributor, as that term is defined in section 602 of
15 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 522),
16 over a system the distributor owns or controls.

17 “(3) The term ‘provider-owned consumer prem-
18 ises equipment’ means any equipment that a pro-
19 vider of Internet access service or multichannel video
20 programming service rents or loans to a customer
21 during the provision of that service, including gate-
22 ways, routers, cable modems, voice-capable modems,
23 CableCARDS, converters, digital adapters, remote
24 controls, and any other equipment provided.”.

25 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

1 (1) TITLE HEADING.—The heading for title III
2 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is amended
3 by striking “**TELEPHONE**” and inserting
4 “**COMMUNICATIONS**”.

5 (2) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of con-
6 tents in section 1(b) of the Servicemembers Civil Re-
7 lief Act is amended—

8 (A) by striking the item relating to title III
9 and inserting the following:

“TITLE III—RENT, INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS, MORTGAGES,
LIENS, ASSIGNMENT, LEASES, COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE CON-
TRACTS”;

10 and

11 (B) by striking the item relating to section
12 305A and inserting the following:

“Sec. 305A. Termination of telephone, multichannel video programming, and
Internet access service contracts.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 24, 2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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